

Message Text

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45

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 H-02 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02 L-02

SSO-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 PRS-01

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2561

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 1894

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CASC, RO (ASHER, ANDREI)

SUBJECT: CASE OF ANDREI ASHER

REFS: (A) BUCHAREST 1892; (B) STATE 100248

1. GIVEN FACT 1) ASHER CASE NOW UNDER APPEAL, 2) ASHER ALLEGED TO HAVE PREVIOUSLY BEEN SENTENCED FOR SERIOUS CRIME TWO YEARS AGO, 3) ASHER IS NEITHER U.S. CITIZEN NOR ASSOCIATED WITH U.S. FIRM; WE SERIOUSLY QUESTION EITHER WISDOM OR UTILITY OF APPROACHING GOR AT THIS TIME ON MATTER.

2. HAS ROMANIAN EMBASSY BEEN APPRISED OF "WIDESPREAD CONCERN" ABOUT THIS CASE EITHER BY DEPARTMENT OR BY MEMBERS OF CONGRESS OR OTHERS CONCERNED?

3. WE KNOW OF ONLY TWO CASES IN RECENT YEARS IN WHICH DEATH SENTENCE IMPOSED AND CARRIED OUT FOR ECONOMIC-RELATED CRIMES. MOST RECENT CASE WAS APPROXIMATELY OCTOBER 1973 WHEN ION TUDORA OF IMAGREX CONVICTED OF UNDERMINING NATIONAL ECONOMY BY FAVORING CERTAIN FOREIGN FIRMS IN THE CONCLUSION OF CONTRACTS FOR IMPORT OF AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENTS. LOSS TO ECONOMY IN THAT CASE PLACED AT 4 MILLION LEI WITH TUDORA ALLEGED AS HAVING RECEIVED GOODS VALUED AT 2 MILLION LEI. IN 1972 CASE MINOR FOOD STORE OFFICIAL SEBESTYEN

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DEZIDERIU RECEIVED DEATH SENTENCE FOR EMBEZZLEMENT OF

4.6 MILLION LEI.

4. WE HAVE NO INFORMATION CONCERNING NICOLAU'S PRESENT
FATE. WILL MAKE DISCREET INQUIRIES AND REPORT.
BARNES

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NNN

Message Attributes

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